



# FirstNet®

**Michele Bischof**, Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, Vice-Chair  
**Chris Maiers**, SWIC  
**Curtis “Wally” Walser**, Deputy SWIC

**Michele Bischof**  
City of Des Moines Fire Dept.

**Eric Dau**  
Clinton County Communications

**Blake DeRouchey**  
Iowa Homeland Security &  
Emergency Management

**Dennis Hart**  
Department of Management

**Jason Hill**  
City of West Des Moines

**Jason Hoffman**  
Carroll County 911 Coordinator

**Chris Maiers**  
SWIC - ISICSB

**Gerard Meyers**  
Department of Public Safety

**William McLain**, Master Sergeant  
Iowa National Guard/Dept. of  
Defense

**Curtis “Wally” Walser**  
City of Cedar Rapids Fire Dept.

**Jim Wittenwyler**  
Department of Public Safety

**Bob Younie**  
Department of Transportation

**Vacant**  
Governor’s Office

## **RIC Leaders**

**Rob Dehnert**, RIC 1 Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, RIC 1 Vice-Chair  
**Brian Blodgett**, RIC 2 Chair  
**Joel Rohne**, RIC 2 Vice-Chair  
**Corey Trucke**, RIC 3 Chair  
**Shawn Olson**, RIC 3 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Hurst**, RIC 4 Chair  
**Mike Jensen**, RIC 4 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Smith**, RIC 5 Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 5 Vice-Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 6 Chair  
**Steph Coffey**, RIC 6 Vice-Chair

## ISICSB FirstNet Broadband Committee Meeting

Please note: This meeting will be held virtually only via the  
following link: <https://attcorp.webex.com/meet/as2113>

Tuesday, June 9, 2020  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

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## FIRSTNET MEETING MINUTES

### Call to Order/Conference Line

Meeting called to order by Chair Bischof at 9:00 a.m.

**Committee Members Present via Webex:** Michele Bischof, Rob Dehnert, Blake DeRouchey, Jason Hoffman, Chris Maiers, Joel Rohne, Corey Trucke

**Committee Member Regrets:** Bob Younie

**Guests Present via Webex:** David Barnett, Dustin Blythe, Hollie Davidson, Lesia Dickson, Mary Harp, Andy Sackreiter

**Committee Members Absent:** Brian Blodgett, Steph Coffey, Eric Dau, Dennis Hart, Jason Hill, Larry Hurst, Mike Jensen, Gerard Meyers, William McLain, Shawn Olson, Larry Smith, Curtis “Wally” Walser, Jim Wittenwyler



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## Welcome Remarks – Chair Bischof

Chair Bischof welcomed the group to the virtual Webex meeting.

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## Review Action Items from Previous Meeting

### a. Update on “Who’s on FirstNet?” database (Joel Rohne)

1. Nebraska has joined in on entering their agency information into the database
2. Encourage other states also to join the database

### b. FirstNet Call Center update (David Barnett)

1. To use the new help desk, an agency must have a minimum of fifty lines

### c. 911 FirstNet host remote update (Blake DeRouchey)

1. Currently conducting testing at PSAPs
  2. Hope to analyze data in July or August
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## FirstNet Update (Lesia Dickson)

### a. Update Region 7

1. 90-minute webinar presented for Nebraska on 6/4/2020
  2. Approximately 100+ webinar attendees
  3. Planning more webinars with Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Missouri
  4. Indiana webinar is June 24, 2020
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## AT&T Update (David Barnett)

### a. Update

- One new tower launched since the May 2020 meeting – Downtown Des Moines, IA near Woodland Ave. and 10<sup>th</sup> St.
- One new tower south of Carroll in Audubon, IA

- Roaming not available yet on black SIM cards

#### **a. Andy Sackreiter Presentation**

1. A slide presentation showing maps of the following:
  - EOY 2018 LTE Sites & 2019 NSBs – map illustrates macro new site builds (NSB) on-air in 2019
  - EOY 2018 LTE Sites, 2019 NSBs & 2020 NSB POE - map illustrates macro new site builds (NSB) on-air in 2019; NSBs that are in the 2020 plan
  - EOY 2018 LTE Sites, 2019 NSBs, 2020 NSB POE & On-Air – map illustrates 2020 NSBs on-air thru 5/17/20; NSBs that are in the 2020 plan; macro new site builds (NSB) on-air in 2019

#### **b. Andy Sackreiter Q&As**

1. **Where do we stand with Band-14 call handoff?**
  - Handoff optimization is ongoing and will continue to improve over time.
2. **Where do we stand with the US Cellular roaming agreement?**
  - Roaming agreement continues and will remain until buildout is complete and all areas of the State have coverage
3. **Where do we stand with 5G for Iowa?**
  - There are currently no specific updates or dates regarding 5G going live in Iowa
4. **What is the plan for tower buildout within the Des Moines Metro area?**
  - New tower was just added in downtown Des Moines near Woodland Ave. and 10<sup>th</sup> St.
  - Look to add small cell where they could assist in western Des Moines
  - At 80% on 14 (Des Moines & West Des Moines)
5. **Update on buildout plans for southwestern Iowa**
  - The focus for 2020 is buildout in the southwestern areas of the State of Iowa
6. **Are there plans for filling gaps in coverage throughout the State of Iowa?**
  - The plan is to complete the network buildout and gather information regarding usage where towers are built then prioritize where gaps remain.
7. **Solution to accessibility of viewing coverage buildout maps**
  - Continue to speak with David Barnett if anyone wishes to view the coverage maps
8. **Discuss high-power equipment and devices**
  - HPUE – ready in the fall
  - 1.5 Watt, network ready, not standard issued end user equipment more unit based

**9. Discuss response to any future outages such as the one that occurred in the southeastern portion of the US**

- Two things generally cause large outages: one relates to fiber cuts, and the other relates to a non-working standby component

**10. Discuss the device certification process. What is the difference between any band 14 capable device and the list of “FirstNet Ready” and/or NIST certified devices? Is a band 14 capable device, that is not certified, going to perform differently than a FirstNet Ready or NIST certified device? Why is the Moto G6 Play on the list, but the newer Moto G7 Play is not on the certified list?**

- David Barnett states that not all phones can function properly because different cell phones from different carriers may have different internal components.
- Recommends getting a new AT&T/FirstNet Ready phone when switching carriers

**11. Where do we stand with call handoffs when roaming from a FirstNet to US Cellular site and vice-versa? Today, this is a hard cutoff, and a call drops. Will this roaming agreement always be like that?**

- Handoff optimization is ongoing and will continue to improve over time.
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## **SWIC Report – (Chris Maiers)**

SWIC Maiers reports the following:

- SWIC Maiers and ISICSB Chair Lampe recently presented at a Traffic Incident Management Meeting regarding FirstNet
  - SWIC Maiers continues to respond to agency questions regarding FirstNet
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## **Questions/Comments**

Rob Dehnert inquired as to if there are any direct connections between FirstNet

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## **New Action Items**

1. Update on “Who’s on FirstNet?” database (Brian Blodgett, Joel Rohne)
  2. FirstNet Call Center update (David Barnett)
  3. 911 FirstNet host remote update (Blake DeRouchey)
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## **Next Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 14, 2020, @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Location:** TBD

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.